

By: Blanco

H.B. No. 1696

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of a percentage of the assessed value of a property owned by certain disabled veterans and the amount of the exemption for the surviving spouses and children of certain disabled veterans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 11.22(a), (b), and (c), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A disabled veteran is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the following applicable percentage ~~[a portion]~~ of the assessed value of a property the veteran owns and designates as provided by Subsection (f) ~~[in accordance with the following schedule]~~:

(1) 7.91 percent for a veteran having a disability rating of at least 10 percent but less than 30 percent;

(2) 11.86 percent for a veteran having a disability rating of at least 30 percent but less than 50 percent;

(3) 15.82 percent for a veteran having a disability rating of at least 50 percent but less than 70 percent; or

(4) 18.98 percent for a veteran having a disability rating of at least 70 percent.

~~[an exemption of~~ ~~for a disability rating of~~
~~up to:~~ ~~at least:~~ ~~but less than:~~
~~\$5,000 of the~~ ~~10%~~ ~~30%~~

1 ~~assessed value~~

$$2 \quad \underline{\underline{7}} \quad \underline{500} \quad \underline{30} \quad \underline{50}$$

3 ~~10,000~~ ~~50~~ ~~70~~

4 ~~12,000~~ ~~70 and over]~~

(b) A disabled veteran is entitled to an exemption from taxation of 18.98 percent [~~\$12,000~~] of the assessed value of a property the veteran owns and designates as provided by Subsection (f) [~~of this section~~] if the veteran:

9 (1) is 65 years of age or older and has a disability
10 rating of at least 10 percent;

11 (2) is totally blind in one or both eyes; or

12 (3) has lost the use of one or more limbs.

(c) If a disabled veteran who is entitled to an exemption by Subsection (a) or (b) ~~[of this section]~~ dies, the veteran's surviving spouse is entitled to an exemption from taxation of a portion of the assessed value of a property the spouse owns and designates as provided by Subsection (f) ~~[of this section]~~. The amount of the exemption is the dollar amount of the veteran's exemption at time of death. The spouse is entitled to an exemption by this subsection only for as long as the spouse remains unmarried. If the spouse does not survive the veteran, each of the veteran's surviving children who is younger than 18 years of age and unmarried is entitled to an exemption from taxation of a portion of the assessed value of a property the child owns and designates as provided by Subsection (f) ~~[of this section]~~. The amount of exemption for each eligible child is computed by dividing the dollar amount of the veteran's exemption at time of death by the

1 number of eligible children.

2 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to ad valorem taxes imposed
3 for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date of this Act.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2018, but only
5 if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 85th Legislature,
6 Regular Session, 2017, proposing a constitutional amendment
7 authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a
8 percentage of the assessed value of property owned by certain
9 disabled veterans is approved by the voters. If that constitutional
10 amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.